



NEWS RELEASE

Office of the United States Attorney
Eastern District of

Texas

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 10, 2005

Contact: Davilyn Brackin
Public Affairs Specialist
(409) 839-2538

BEAUMONT MAN INDICTED FOR CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

(Beaumont, Texas) A 52-year-old Beaumont man has been indicted in the Eastern District of Texas on child pornography charges. A federal grand jury returned the seven-count indictment last week charging **RANDY CRAIG ROCHELLE** with possessing child pornography, receiving child pornography, transporting child pornography, sexual exploitation of three minors, and possessing obscenity.

According to court documents, beginning on or about May of 2003 Rochelle used a computer to receive, transport and store pornographic images of minors. He is also charged with inducing three minors to engage in sexually explicit conduct to produce child pornography. Rochelle was arrested and appeared in court for an initial appearance late yesterday afternoon. He was released to a third party custodian and must remain at the custodian's residence except for specified visits to his attorney, medical appointments and to attend church services.

If convicted, Rochelle faces from five to fifteen years in prison for each charge and fines of up to \$250,000 for each count.

--more--

It is important to note a defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law. A Grand Jury indictment is not evidence of guilt.

The case is being investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Beaumont police Department and prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert L. Rawls.

###